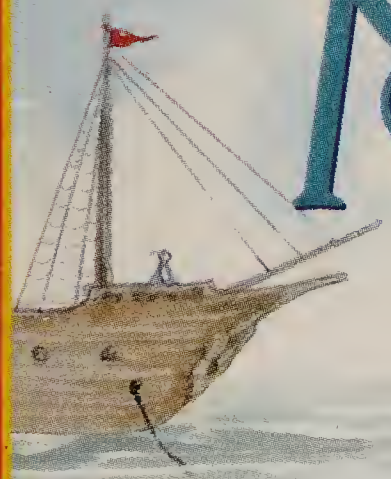
SCHOLASTIC READER

2 LEVEL

Little Mermaid



SCHOLASTIC

I, _____,

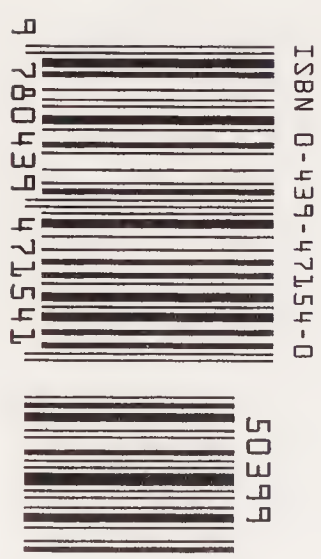
(Your Name)

have read this book

once,

twice,

again and again!



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Scholastic Reader series. We have taken over 80 years of experience with teachers, parents, and children and put it into a program that is designed to match your child's interests and skills.

Level 1—Short sentences and stories made up of words kids can sound out using their phonics skills and words that are important to remember.

Level 2—Longer sentences and stories with words kids need to know and new "big" words that they will want to know.

Level 3—From sentences to paragraphs to longer stories, these books have large "chunks" of texts and are made up of a rich vocabulary.

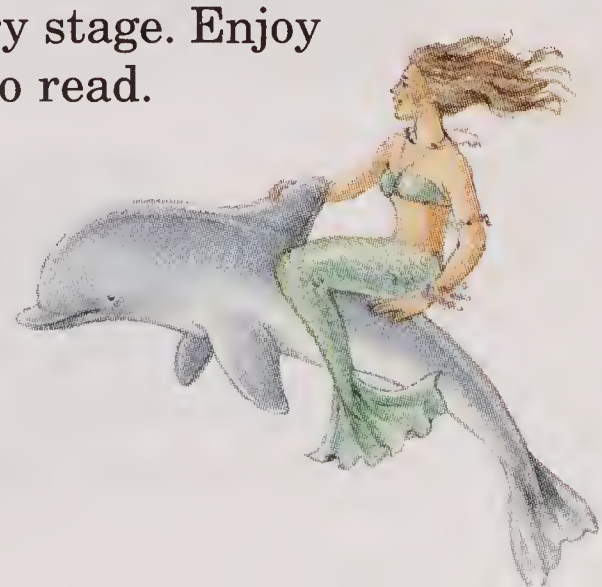
Level 4—First chapter books with more words and fewer pictures.

It is important that children learn to read well enough to succeed in school and beyond. Here are ideas for reading this book with your child:

- Look at the book together. Encourage your child to read the title and make a prediction about the story.
- Read the book together. Encourage your child to sound out words when appropriate. When your child struggles, you can help by providing the word.
- Encourage your child to retell the story. This is a great way to check for comprehension.
- Have your child take the fluency test on the last page to check progress.

Scholastic Readers are designed to support your child's efforts to learn how to read at every age and every stage. Enjoy helping your child learn to read and love to read.

—**Francie Alexander**
Chief Education Officer
Scholastic Education



For our little princesses, Dariyah and Sakinah
–S.W.B.

For Jerry
–B.L.

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Little Mermaid

by **Sonia W. Black**
Illustrated by **Barbara Lanza**

Scholastic Reader — Level 2

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The Sea King had six daughters. Little Mermaid was the youngest and most beautiful.

All day, the princesses had fun together.
At night, they enjoyed their grandmother's
stories about the Upper World.
They longed to go above and see it.

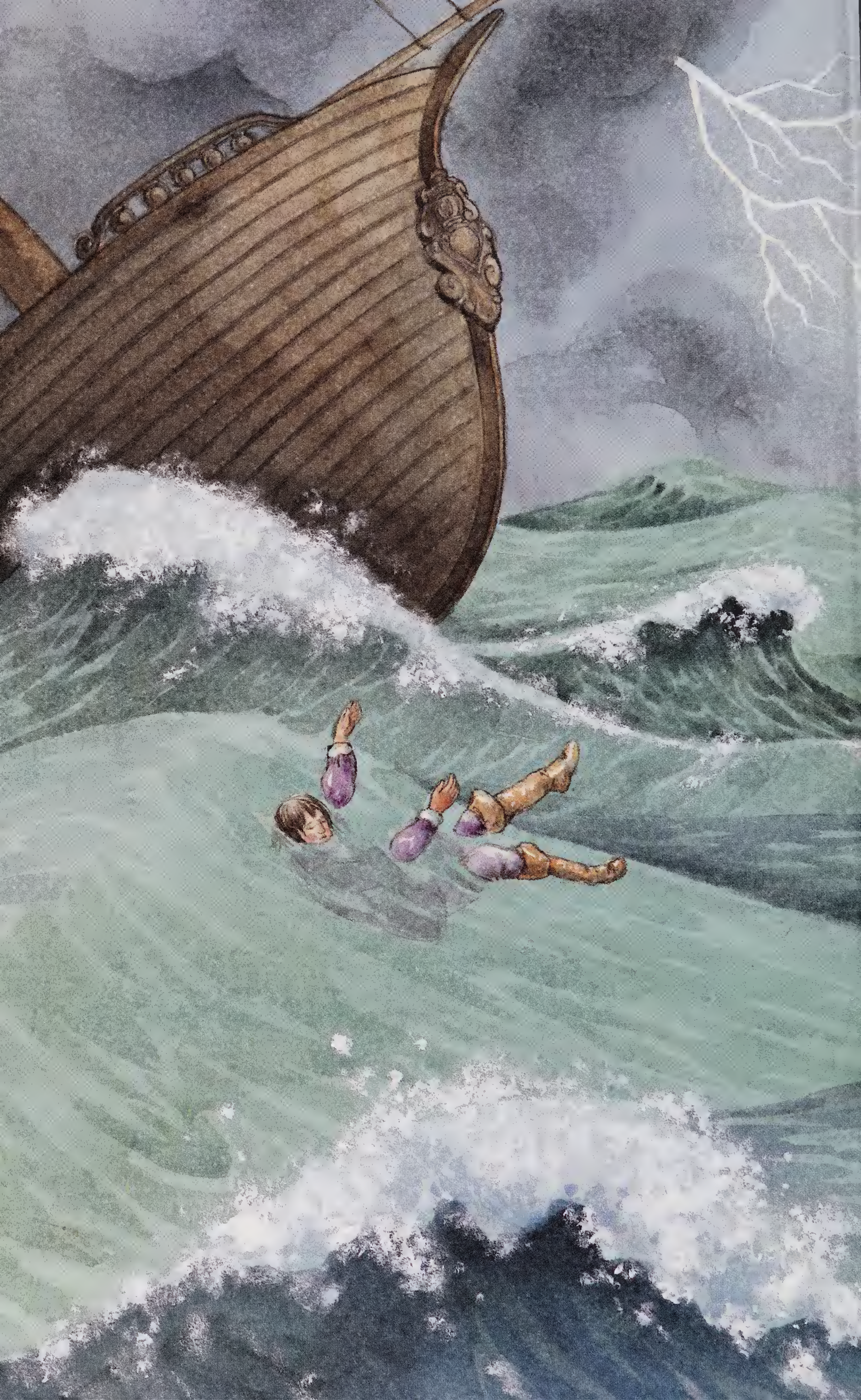
But Grandmother said,
"You must be fifteen years old first."
Little Mermaid had to wait her turn.

At last, Little Mermaid went
above with her sisters.
The princesses played and sang all day.
Little Mermaid had the best voice of all.

One day, Little Mermaid
swam above alone.

She saw
a big ship with
a handsome young
prince on the deck.

Little Mermaid
fell in love.



Suddenly, a great storm came.

The prince was drowning.

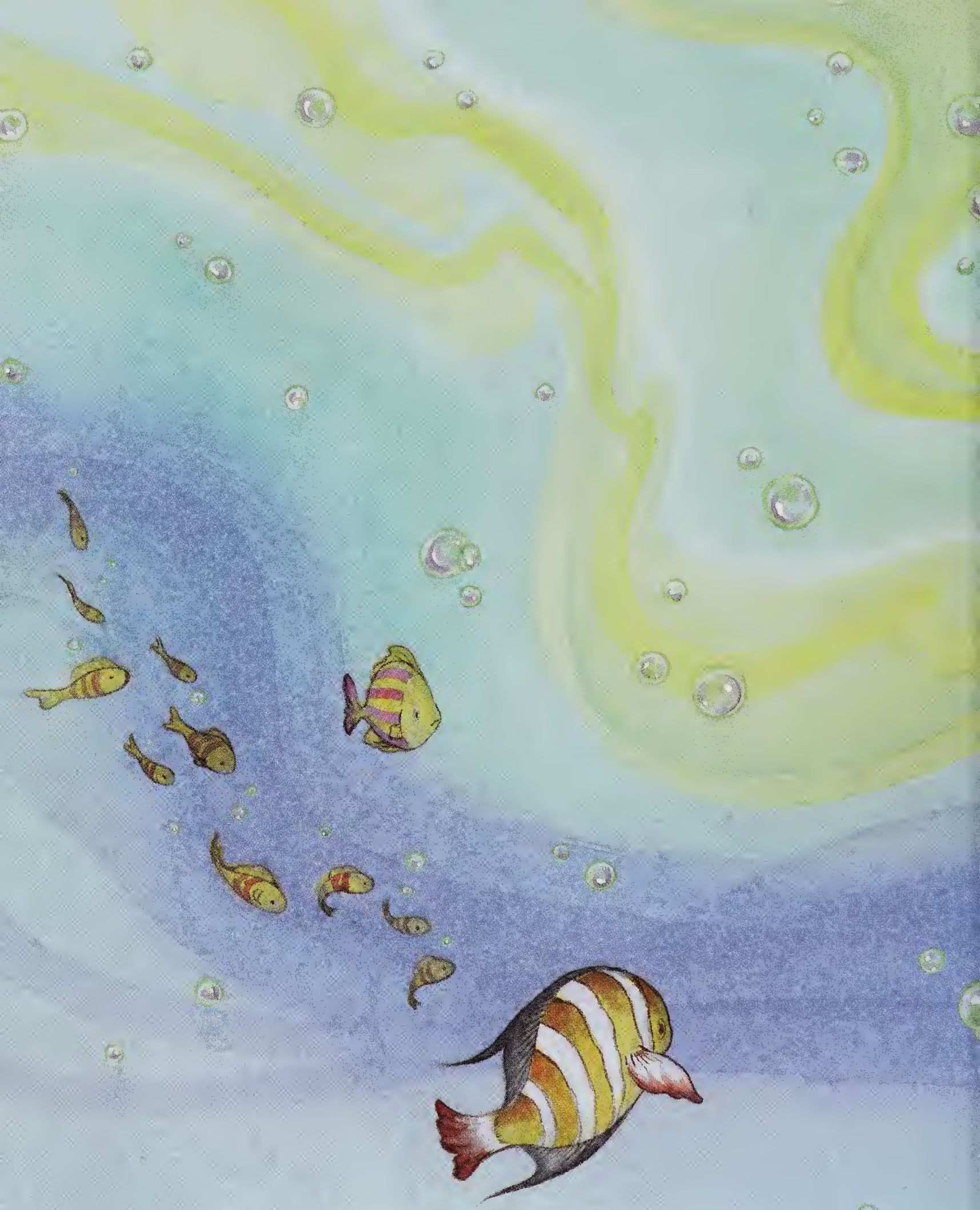
Little Mermaid saved him.

She waited till he woke up.

Then she swam home sadly.
"I want to be human and
marry the prince," she said.
"The Sea Witch will help me."

The Sea Witch made a magic drink.
"This will make you human.
You will have legs.
But they will hurt!" she warned.
"And if the prince marries someone
else, you will turn to sea foam!"

Then she said, "In return
for my magic drink, I must
take your lovely voice!"



Little Mermaid drank. Legs grew.
She felt sharp pain and fainted.

When she awoke, she
saw the handsome prince.
"You are so beautiful!"
he said.

Little Mermaid tried
to speak. No words
came out!

"Come home with me,"
said the prince.
Her legs hurt with
every step.

Little Mermaid and the prince
spent happy times together.
She could not speak.
But, in pain, she danced for him!

All the while, she thought
about marrying him.

But one day, Little Mermaid heard the prince would marry someone else.

She remembered the witch's spell.

I will turn to sea foam,

she thought, sadly.

The prince and the beautiful princess had a big wedding.

Could Little Mermaid break the witch's spell before morning?

Her sisters came.
They gave her a knife
from the Sea Witch.

"You must kill the prince tonight.
Then you will be like us again!" they said.

But Little Mermaid could not do it.
She kissed the prince good-bye.

At sunrise, Little Mermaid dove into the sea.
She turned into sea foam,
forever dancing with the waves.

Fluency Fun

The words in each list below end in the same sounds.
Read the words in a list.
Read them again.
Read them faster.
Try to read all 15 words in one minute.

pain	**leak**	**night**
brain	**bleak**	**bright**
train	**creak**	**fright**
strain	**speak**	**delight**
remain	**squeak**	**tonight**

Look for these words in the story.

beautiful **together** **above**

human **thought**

Note to Parents:

According to *A Dictionary of Reading and Related Terms*, fluency is "the ability to read smoothly, easily, and readily with freedom from word-recognition problems." Fluency is necessary for good comprehension and enjoyable reading. The activities on this page include a speed drill and a sight-recognition drill. Speed drills build fluency because they help students rapidly recognize common syllables and spelling patterns in words, and they're fun! Sight-recognition drills help students smoothly and accurately recognize words. Practice these activities with your child to help him or her become a fluent reader.

—**Wiley Blevins**,
Reading Specialist

From Scholastic,
the most trusted name in learning.®

Scholastic Readers

to read together,
to read with help,
to read alone!

Phonics Fun

Cool Cats
Pup and Pop

Word by Word First Readers

Pals
Scarecrow
Firefighter

Level 1

I Spy a Dinosaur's Eye
I Spy Funny Teeth
I Spy a School Bus
Magic Matt and the Cat
Magic Matt and the Skunk in the Tub
Magic Matt and the Jack-O'-Lantern
Magic Matt and the Dinosaur

Level 2

Beauty and the Beast
Snow White
Little Mermaid
Supertwins Meet the Bad Dogs from Space
Supertwins and Tooth Trouble
Supertwins Meet the Dangerous Dinobots

Level 3

Batman: Time Thaw
Batman: The Copycat Crime

The Little Mermaid is in love with a handsome prince. Will she marry him?

You can read this story by yourself!

SCHOLASTIC READER

Join the SCHOLASTIC READING CIRCLE—children will love to read together, read with assistance, and read alone!

1 LEVEL Simple words and short sentences for the newest readers

2 LEVEL Vocabulary and sentence length for beginning readers

3 LEVEL Longer stories with paragraphs

4 LEVEL First chapter books for advanced beginners

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